

Message Text

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12

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 EB-11 AID-20 INT-08 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01

PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 TRSE-00 OMB-01 RSR-01 /120 W

----- 075300

R 160615 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY KABUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3292

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE KABUL 3585

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PGOV, PINT, AF, IR

SUBJ: PARLIAMENT BEGINS DEBATE HELMAND TREATY

1. PARLIAMENT COMPLETED DISCUSSION OF AND APPROVED CIVIL SERVANTS LAW MAY 8, AND BEGAN DISCUSSION HELMAND WATERS TREATY AT NEXT REGULAR PLENARY SESSION MAY 13. MOTION TO INITIATE DISCUSSION TREATY INTRODUCED AS " URGENT PROPOSAL" FROM GOVERNMENT, WHICH PASSED WITH ONLY SIX NEGATIVE VOTES. VIRTUALLY ALL OF MAY 13 SESSION DEVOTED TO READING TEXT TREATY IN BOTH FARSI AND PUSHTU, READING FAVORABLE REPORTS ON TREATY FROM HOUSE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND AGRICULTURE COMMITTEES, AND REGISTERING THOSE DEPUTIES WISHING TO SPEAK ON ISSUE (OVER 70 SIGNED UP).

2. FIRST AND ONLY SPEAKERS MAY 14 WERE LEFTIST DEPUTIES HAFIZULLAH AMIN AND BABRAK KARMAL, BOTH OF WHOM ATTACKED TREATY AS SELLOUT TO IRAN. AMIN AND BABRAK RECITED LONG HISTORY LESSON OF AFGHANISTAN' S VICTIMIZATION BY IMPERIALISM IN REGION, AND CITED HELMAND TREATY AS LATEST CHAPTER. BOTH CITED " AMERICAN IMPERIALISM" AS INVOLVED IN HELMAND SETTLEMENT, PRIMARILY THROUGH DESIRE SUPPORT " ITS IRANIAN PUPPET." NO RPT NO TIME LIMIT HAS BEEN SET ON INDIVIDUAL DEPUTY' S PRESENTATION, ALTHOUGH BABRAK (WHO SPOKE FOR OVER TWO HOURS) WAS INTERRUPTED SEVERAL TIMES BY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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HOUSE SPEAKER AND OTHER DEPUTIES WHO DISTRESSED AT WHAT APPEARED AS FILIBUSTER ATTEMPT.

3. MAY 15 SESSION GENERALLY TAKEN UP BY DEPUTIES SPEAKING IN

FAVOR TREATY, INCLUDING SAYED ZAHER SHAH. SESSION ENDED EARLY
AND ABRUPTLY BY SPEAKER WARDAK AS NUMBER LEFTIST DEPUTIES
ATTEMPTED INTRODUCE RESOLUTION CALLING ON PRIMIN SHAFIQ TO
APPEAR FOR QUESTIONING ON TREATY. NEXT REGULAR SESSION SET FOR
MAY 20.

4. COMMENT: NO SURPRISE SO FAR. MANY DEPUTIES COMMENTED IT
DOUBTFUL ALL 70 WHO REGISTERED TO SPEAK WILL DO SO, AND LIKELY
THAT WITHIN COMING WEEK FINAL VOTE WILL BE TAKEN. DESPITE VERBAL
PYROTECHNICS IN PARLIAMENT HALL, WE STILL ANTICIPATE FAVORABLE
VOTE ON TREATY.

DECON AFTER JUNE 1, 1975.

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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